

Date: 05/03/26 Season: EASTER 5 (WHITE)

PASTOR Rev. Orin W Cummings, PhD	VICAR Abbey Knappman
ASSISTING Tyler Hudson	LECTOR Josh Dimmick
KEYBOARDIST Karen Bowman	CANTORS Revelations Praise Band
A/V Drew Bowman, Kenny Lourwood	
DISTRIBUTION MINISTERS Vicar Abbey, Tyler Hudson, Josh Dimmick, Debbie Corlett	

PRELUDE

Way Maker

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit Calls us together as the people of God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In celebration of our baptism, we worship

In the name of God: Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG # 1

We Believe

Revelations Praise Band

(Please be seated as we prepare our hearts for confession)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*).

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness

who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

**Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,
and for making us a new creation.**

**We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,
now and forever.**

Amen.

GATHERING SONG # 2

Be the Centre

Revelations Praise Band

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

GOSPEL

Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.

The Holy Gospel according to John the 14th Chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Pastor Orin W. Cummings

SERMON

Blessed Assurance

Pastor Orin W. Cummings

SONG OF THE DAY

Jesus Messiah

Revelations Praise Band

BLESSING OF GRADUATES

We invited High School Graduates Drew Bowman, Taylor Brannon, Cooper Colwell, Nathanael Cummings, Audrey Dimmick, and Makayla Helmke to come to the altar rail along with College Graduates Hunter Helmke, Megan Melgren and Melissa [Melgren] Shepherd.

Dear friends: Life presents us with various significant milestones that set the stage for the next phase in our earthly journey. Graduation from high school or college or seminary is one of these milestones. Today we honor graduates for their accomplishment and transition. As a community of faith, we stand with all graduates and support them as fellow believers in Jesus Christ.

Graduates, we are proud of you! It is our privilege to affirm you as members of this congregation and bless your future endeavors. You have completed an important phase of your lives, and you are entering another. At this time of celebration and transition, hear these words from the Holy Scripture: "Christ gives [you] the strength to face anything" (Philippians 4:13).

Dear graduates, please know that wherever you go and whatever you do, you are going forward with our prayers for God's continued guidance, power, protection, and strength.

Let us pray:

Gracious God, when you welcomed the children,
your invitation included each one of us.
Your guiding hand
has continually been upon these young women and men.
You have sustained them.
You have shared in their laughter,
and wiped away their tears.
In times of confusion, you have offered direction.
In times of sorrow, you have offered hope.
In times of doubt, your Holy Spirit has lifted them up.
Grant each graduate
the knowledge of your continued presence
as they go forth into the future.
Guide their steps.
Hold them in the hollow of your hand.
Bless and keep them,
now and forever in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Graduates, as you celebrate your achievements and prepare for your new endeavors, do you give thanks to God for the many ways your faith has been your strength and guide during this time of growth and development?

I do with the help of God.

As you consider the next steps of your journey of life, do you acknowledge God going with you, beside you, before you, behind you, below you, above you, and within you?

I do with the help of God.

As you make choices about your vocation, will you offer your gifts to the world as part of the body of Christ and welcome the support of a family of faith?

I do with the help of God.

Members and friends of Messiah Lutheran Church, will you promise to keep these graduates and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they transition into all that the future holds?

We will with the help of God.

Will you, as fellow believers in Jesus Christ, promise to pray for and help these young women and men as need and opportunity arise?

We will with the help of God.

Graduates, remember that we are your family of faith at Messiah Lutheran Church, and will continue to support you in all that you do. If you move away, come back often.

THE BLESSING

O God, Giver and Sustainer of all life, bless these graduates as they stand at the threshold of a new adventure. In their living and loving may they always remember that you are the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Give them the wisdom to seek your way and to proclaim your peace and justice, that you may be praised and that throughout their life our world may become closer to the designs of your bountiful and loving plans, in the name of God: Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

(Graduates please turn and face the congregation) I present to you, our graduates.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us affirm our faith with the Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

**The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.
Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.**

(Please be seated and join us in prayer)

PRAYER SONG

As We Pray

Revelations Praise Band

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation, and open our hearts to God's will.

A brief silence.

God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Inspire lay leaders, interns, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains and valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster, especially move us to help in the recovery from recent storms. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion, and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance, especially in times of conflict and war in the Middle East, Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, and the Americas. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, especially Emily and Austin Davidson, Sara, Joshua and Asher Keatts, Conner and Corey Pettett, Connie Toavs, Pete and Chris Tidemann, Susie and Jim Rucker and their relatives. Provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick, especially Cody Stevenson, Billie Stewart, Pam Bergin, Jennifer, Mr. Broussard, Lynn, Radar, Cheryl Lundberg, Gahan Fallone, Hudson Greer, Matthew Peterson, David Adams, Allison Gregory, Edward Dykman, Tommy Brewer, Cathy Carleton, Sally McCarville, Terry Touhey, Mary Jane Auld, Linden Cummings, Juanita Steinbaugh, Andrew Langr, Mark Krueger, Bob White, and Beverly Carlson. Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

God of community, you call us together as your people for mutual support and to witness to your love in the world. Make your presence known among those unable to attend worship today. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed, especially Colleen Prosser, Lynda Minnick and Shirley Wolf, who witnessed to your mighty acts in word and deed. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Merciful God, grant protection and safety to service women and men deployed to the Middle East in this time of war, especially Kyle C. God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

PRAYER SONG

As We Pray

Revelations Praise Band

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION SONG

Do This

Revelation Praise Band

TABLE BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus,
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

He Reigns

Revelations Praise Band

MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by the Gospel, we:
Welcome all to worship;
Make disciples;
Hunger for ministry;
Nurture youth;
Gather resources for growing ministries;
Offer healing and care to all in need.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

OFFERING

(Please place gifts in the plate as you leave)